

Three injured as BCL factions clash at CU

Staff Correspondent . Chattogram | Published at 12:14am on February 25, 2023

Three people were injured as two groups of Bangladesh Chhatra League clashed at Chattogram University on Friday.

Activists of the ruling Awami League-backed student body have frequently been engaging in clashes with each other on the CU campus.

On Friday, BCL activists carried out vandalism at Suhrawardy Hall during the factional clash that started at Alaol hall, according to witnesses.

Two groups — one led by CU BCL vice-president Nazrul Islam and another by BCL activist Delwar Hossain — engaged in clashes with sharp weapons at the Alaol Hall field at about 5:30pm, said a witness.

Later, both groups started hurling stones at each other and engaged in chases and counter-chases at Alaol Hall, AF Rahman Hall and Suhrawardy Hall, said the witness.

A group vandalised some rooms at Suhrawardy Hall, said witness Mohammad Shakil. ‘Three persons were injured during the clash,’ he said.

Both the conflicting groups are followers of CU BCL vice-president Mohammad Elias who leads a BCL faction of the university under the banner of Bijoy group, according to BCL sources.

CU BCL vice-president Nazrul Islam and activist Delwar Hossain and their leader Mohammad Elias could not be reached for comment over the clash.

CU assistant proctor Hasan Mohammad Roman told New Age at about 8:00pm that the situation was under control.

‘BCL activists vandalised seven rooms, the hall office and the provost office of Suhrawardy Hall,’ he said.

Hathazari police officer-in-charge Ruhul Amin said that they deployed additional police personnel on the campus to avoid further clashes.

Over the past three years, there have been numerous BCL factional clashes on the campus and at residential halls over establishing supremacy, raising concerns over the safety and security of students, according to general students.

The clashes have reportedly involved BCL members and supporters, who have used weapons and other forms of violence to attack other students, according to media reports.

Shafiqur Rahman, a student of the Bangla department, told New Age on Friday that BCL activists were locked in clashes any moment.

‘It is risky to go to classes at the university due to their fights,’ he said.

Shafiqur has a seat at Suhrawardy Hall, but he avoids living at the hall as BCL groups often clash with each other at halls, he said.



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